

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: ICHIKAWA, Naoya et al. Conf.:
Appl. No.: New Group:
Filed: February 26, 2002 Examiner:
For: DEPROTEINIZED NATURAL RUBBER LATEX,
METHOD OF PREPARING THE SAME, RUBBER
PRODUCT USING THE SAME, AND PROTEOLYTIC
AGENT FOR DEPROTEINIZED NATURAL RUBBER
LATEX

HYIA
VPA
9-502

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

February 26, 2002

Sir:

The following preliminary amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 12, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--As used herein, the expression "coagulation of the rubber occurs" refers to the fact that the rubber component in the deproteinized natural rubber latex is completely isolated in the upper layer of the latex in the form of a coherent solid content

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